



I

WELLS-NEXT-THE-SEA URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the Year 1966

To which is appended the

REPORT

of the

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

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WELLS-NEXT-THE-SEA URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

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PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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Medical Officer of Health

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(S)  
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Surveyor and Public Health Inspector

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Tel: Wells 439

WELLS-NEXT-THE-SEA URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE, 1966

Chairman	-	Mr. J. Cadamy
Members	(1)	
	-	Mrs. V.R. Chamberlain
	-	Mrs. M.O. French
	-	Mr. S. Abel
	-	Mr. J.H. Acock
	-	Mr. L. Cox
	-	Mr. R. Edmondson
	-	Mr. C.H. Platten
	-	Mr. M.C. Raisbury
-	Mr. C.A. Ramm	
-	Mr. F. Sawbridge	

WELLS-NEXT-THE-SEA URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Report of the Medical Officer of Health  
for the year ended 31st December, 1966

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my report on the Health of the District for 1966. As in previous years, the report of the Surveyor and Public Health Inspector is included.

The registrar general's mid-year estimate of population was 2,450, exactly the same as the estimated population for 1965, 1964, 1963 and 1962. There were 27 live births, one still birth and 27 deaths recorded. There were no maternal deaths. One death, from an accidental cause, occurred in a child under one year. Fifteen of the 27 deaths occurred in persons above 65 years of age.

Eight cases of measles were notified. No notifications were received of any other legally notifiable disease. :

The analysis of the public water supply remained satisfactory. Work on the new storage reservoir with a capacity of 650,000 gallons, was commenced during October 1966.

Preliminary investigations were undertaken for the siting and capacity of a new sewage works.

I wish to take this opportunity to express my appreciation to the Chairman and members of the Public Health Committee for their support and to the Officers and staffs of the Local Authority and the Local Health Office for their continuous co-operation and support throughout the year.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

L.G. POOLE, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., D.T.M. & H.  
Medical Officer of Health

# SECTION I

## GENERAL STATISTICS

- (a) Area :- The Urban District covers 2,670 acres.
- (b) Population :- The estimated Mid-Year Home Population for the District for 1966 was 2,450. This was the same as in the last four years.

Year	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966
Estimated Mid-Year Population	2600	2700	2730	2720	2470	2450	2450	2450	2450	2450

The total number of deaths was 27; the number of live births 27.

(£)

- (c) The Rateable Value of the District was £ 80,254.
- (d) The Product of the Penny Rate was £316.
- (e) Meteorological Factors:- the data, acquired by courtesy of the R.A.F. West Raynham, is shown in the table below, the figures in brackets being the corresponding data for 1965.

Month	Mean daily maximum Temp (°F)	Mean daily minimum Temp (°F)	Mean daily temperature (°F)	Total rain-fall inches	Mean relative humidity
Jan.	39.0 (40.8)	33.1 (33.1)	36.1 (36.9)	1.45 (2.93)	89.25 (88.75)
Feb.	44.8 (40.5)	37.0 (34.0)	40.9 (37.3)	3.29 (1.12)	90.50 (86.25)
Mar.	48.6 (46.9)	36.0 (33.4)	42.3 (40.1)	1.17 (2.47)	83.75 (84.75)
Apr.	50.4 (52.7)	38.7 (38.7)	44.5 (45.7)	2.22 (2.51)	86.75 (85.0)
May	59.5 (59.7)	43.5 (45.3)	51.5 (52.5)	1.74 (1.38)	81.25 (81.0)
June	68.4 (64.4)	50.4 (48.4)	59.4 (56.4)	3.00 (2.37)	83.25 (83.0)
July	64.8 (62.8)	50.9 (50.0)	57.9 (56.4)	3.89 (4.09)	84.75 (84.75)
Aug.	66.4 (66.4)	50.7 (50.4)	58.5 (58.4)	4.48 (2.96)	83.75 (83.0)
Sept.	64.4 (61.5)	49.5 (47.5)	56.9 (54.5)	.73 (4.26)	82.50 (87.50)
Oct.	56.5 (58.3)	45.9 (44.2)	51.2 (51.3)	3.49 ( .81)	91.0 (88.0)
Nov.	45.5 (44.2)	37.6 (35.2)	41.5 (39.7)	5.35 (3.42)	90.0 (87.75)
Dec.	43.3 (42.4)	35.2 (34.0)	39.3 (38.2)	3.48 (6.05)	91.50 (92.50)



## VITAL STATISTICS

### Births

The Registrar General's figure for live births and stillbirths in the District for 1966 was 27 and 1 respectively.

Table showing the sex of legitimate and illegitimate live births  
(the figures in brackets are corresponding numbers for 1965)

Live Births	Males	Females	Totals
Legitimate	10 (16)	17 (14)	27 (30)
Illegitimate	- ( - )	- ( 2 )	- ( 2 )
Totals	10 (16)	17 (16)	27 (32)

### Live Birth Rate

The crude rate was 11.02 per 1,000 of the estimated population, compared with a rate of 13.06 in 1965; 11.8 in 1964; 16.3 in 1963 and 13.06 in 1962. The corrected birth rate (using a comparability factor of 1.14) was 12.6 per 1,000 of the population, compared with a rate of 17.7 for England and Wales and 16.19 for the Administrative County of Norfolk.

### Illegitimate Births

There were no illegitimate births. The percentage of illegitimate live births to the total live births for 1966 was zero, compared with 6.25% in 1965; 13.8% in 1964; 2.5% in 1963 and 6.25% in 1962.

### Still Births

There was one stillbirth in 1966, giving a stillbirth rate per 1,000 total live and stillbirths of 35.7. The rate for England and Wales was 15.4 for 1966, and for the Administrative County of Norfolk the rate was 15.62.

### Infant Deaths

One infant under one year of age died in 1966.

### Infant Mortality Rate

This is calculated as the total infant deaths per 1,000 live births, and for 1966 was 37.0.

The infant mortality rate for England and Wales in 1966 was 19.0, and for the Administrative County of Norfolk, 15.71.

### Legitimate Infant Mortality Rate

This is deaths in legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births, and for 1966 was 37.0.

### Illegitimate Infant Mortality Rate

This is deaths in illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births. This was zero in 1966.

### Neonatal Mortality Rate

Neonatal Mortality Rate is deaths of infants under four weeks of age per 1,000 live births. This was zero in 1966.

### Early Neonatal Mortality Rate

This rate is deaths of infants under one week of age per 1,000 live births. This was zero in 1966.

### Perinatal Mortality Rate

This rate is combined stillbirths and deaths under one week of age per 1,000 total live and stillbirths. The rate for 1966 was 35.7.

### Maternal Mortality Rate

No deaths occurred in 1966, therefore maternal mortality rate was zero.

### Deaths from all causes

The Registrar General has recorded the following deaths and they are classified under the thirty-six headings based on the abbreviated list of International Statistical Classifications of Diseases, Injuries and Causes of Deaths, 1955. Where headings are omitted from the table, there were no deaths due to these causes.

Cause of Death	Sex	Total All Ages	4 weeks and under 1 year	Age in			Years 75 & over
				45-	55-	65-	
10. Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach.	M	2	-	-	1	1	-
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-
11. Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus.	M	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	1
12. Malignant Neoplasm, Breast.	M	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	1	-
13. Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus.	F	1	-	1	-	-	-
14. Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms.	M	3	-	1	1	-	1
	F	1	-	-	-	1	-
17. Vascular Lesions of Nervous System.	M	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	3	-	-	-	1	2
18. Coronary Disease, Angina.	M	4	-	1	3	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	1
20. Other Heart Disease.	M	3	-	1	1	-	1
	F	1	-	1	-	-	-
24. Bronchitis.	M	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	2	-	-	-	-	2
29. Hyperplasia of Prostate.	M	2	-	-	-	-	2
32. Other Defined and Ill- Defined Diseases.	M	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	1
34. All Other Accidents.	M	1	1	-	-	-	-
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total All Causes	M	15	1	3	6	1	4
	F	12	-	2	-	3	7



Deaths from all causes - Cont'd

There were 27 deaths in all in the District in 1966 ..  
15 male and 12 female.

Heart disease, with 9 deaths caused 33.3% of all deaths.  
Coronary artery disease, with 5 deaths, caused 18.5% of all deaths.

Vascular lesions of the nervous system caused 3 deaths,  
or 11.1% of all deaths.

If all deaths due to diseases of the heart and circulatory  
system, including vascular lesions of the nervous system, are combined a  
figure of 12 deaths is reached, thus 44.4% of all deaths was from these  
causes.

Cancer caused 9 deaths or 33.3% of all deaths. One of  
these deaths was due to cancer of the lung and bronchus.

Crude Death Rate per 1,000 of estimated population	-	11.02
Corrected Death Rate per 1,000 of estimated population (using comparability factor of 0.84)	-	9.3
Corrected Death Rate for the Administrative County of Norfolk per 1,000 estimated population	-	9.91
Death Rate for England and Wales per 1,000 estimated population	-	11.7

The value of the Corrected Death Rate is that comparisons  
can be made between different areas of the country.

## S E C T I O N    II

### COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

Eight cases of measles were reported during the year.

#### Tuberculosis

No new cases were reported.

If reference is made to the table showing the causes of death, it will be seen that none were due to tuberculosis, showing that this once dreaded disease is being controlled.

The following table shows the number of cases on the Register in Wells at the end of 1966:-

	<u>Pulmonary</u>		<u>Non-Pulmonary</u>		<u>Total</u>	
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
New cases						
Inward        ) transfers      )	NIL		NIL		NIL	
No.on Register at 31/12/66	2 (2)	2 (2)	- (-)	1 (1)	2 (2)	3 (3)
	4 (4)		1 (1)		5 (5)	

(The figures in brackets show the corresponding numbers for 1965)

#### B.C.G. Vaccinations

B.C.G. vaccination is offered by the County Council to all children on attaining the age of 13 years. Out of the 91 children offered vaccination, 85 accepted, giving an acceptance rate of 93.4%.

The following table shows the figures of the Alderman Peel School in 1966, (the figures in brackets show the corresponding numbers for 1965).

Number due	Number accepted	Tested	Read	Posi- tive	Neg.& vaccinated	Tuberculin Index
91 (75)	85 (66)	84 (65)	76 (65)	11(2)	65 (63)	14.5% (3.1%)

The tuberculin index does not necessarily indicate tuberculous disease, as the resistance of the great majority of pupils is sufficient to overcome the invading organism; it does, however, indicate the degree of opportunity for invasion, and is thus a useful index of infectious cases in a community.

## Poliomyelitis

There were no cases of poliomyelitis in the District in 1966. Immunisation is offered by the County Council.

The following table shows the number of persons immunised against poliomyelitis during 1966 in Area 8 (which comprises Walsingham and Docking Rural Districts and Hunstanton and Wells Urban Districts) and in Wells U.D.

Age Groups	Area 8	Wells U.D.
Children born in 1966	149	14
Children born in 1965	373	18
Children born in 1964	36	1
Children born in 1963	10	-
Children born 1959 - 62	60	1
Others under age 16.	3	-
Re-inforcing doses (all ages)	456	12
Total	1087	46

## Smallpox

There were no cases of smallpox in the District in 1966.

The following table shows the number of vaccinations, by age groups, carried out in Area 8 and Wells Urban District in 1966.

Age at date of Vaccination	Area 8		Wells U.D.	
	Primary	Re-Vacc.	Primary	Re-Vacc.
0 - 3 months	2	-	-	-
3 - 6 "	6	-	-	-
6 - 9 "	6	-	-	-
9 - 12 "	23	-	-	-
1 year	238	-	18	-
2 - 4 years	53	11	5	-
5 - 14 "	13	40	-	-
Total	341	51	23	-

## Diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus

There were no cases under this heading notified in the District.

The following table gives more information about immunisation against diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus in Area 8 (Area 8 comprises Walsingham and Docking Rural Districts and Hunstanton and Wells Urban Districts) and in Wells U.D. in 1966.

		Area 8	Wells U.D.
Triple	Initial	509	29
	Booster	303	33
Diphtheria/ Tetanus	Initial	55	-
	Booster	724	63
Diphtheria	Initial	1	-
	Booster	47	7
Tetanus	Initial	40	-
	Booster	169	-

SECTION III

REPORT

OF THE

SURVEYOR AND PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR



## INSPECTIONS

The following inspections were carried out during the year:-

Housing	...	...	...	67
Housing Repairs and Byelaws	...	...	...	146
Slaughter Houses	...	...	...	254
Shops	...	...	...	53
Pest Acts	...	...	...	378
Factories and Workshops	...	...	...	4
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	215

## HOUSING

### Slum Clearance

During the year under review no visible progress has been made with Stage II of the Freeman Street Clearance Area, but arrangements have been made to examine possibilities on the site for re-development. The clearance area is approximately seven acres in extent and there are 50 dwellings still occupied. Some rehousing has occurred in the past from the worst of the dwellings in the area and these now remain as dilapidated structures. I understand that the first steps to improve this area of the town were discussed during the early 1930's and it is, therefore, almost 35 years since these dwellings and structures were depreciated in value because of the threat of clearance. It is, therefore, high time that some firm decisions were taken in this matter and the decisions, once taken, carried out.

### Individual Unfit Houses

The following table shows action taken under Section 14 et seq. of the Housing Act, 1957.

Representations Received	...	...	...	0
Representations Outstanding at 1.1.66	...	...	...	4
Closing Orders Made	...	...	...	0
Demolition Orders Made	...	...	...	0
Undertakings Accepted	...	...	...	3 (1 sub.for Demo
Remaining to be determined	...	...	...	2 Order)

### Council House Building

Plans are being prepared for the construction of 15 additional dwellings, and it is anticipated that these will be commenced early in 1967.

### Improvements to Council Houses

No provision for major improvement in Council House Dwellings is in hand and the stock of Council Houses is as shown in last year's report.

### Improvements to Privately Owned Houses

Standard Grants and Discretionary Grants have been made as shown in the following tables, showing a comparison with 1964 and 1965 :

Standard Grants	1964	1965	1966
Applications Received	9	10	12
Applications Approved	9	8	11
Value of Grants Approved	£1750.0.0.	£1100.0.0.	£1588.9.7.
Value of Grants Paid	£ 748.18.0.	£ 930.5.0.	£1098.3.3.

  

Discretionary Grants	1964	1965	1966
Applications Received	1	3	2
Applications Approved	1	3	2
Value of Grants Approved	£ 400.0.0.	£1014.5.4.	£649.10.0.
Value of Grants Paid	£ 700.0.0.	£ 170.0.0.	Nil

## Private Enterprise Building

During the year ten new dwellings were completed.

### WATER SUPPLY

A copy of the analyst's report of the Public Supply of Water is given below:-

Source of Sample and Date	Wells U.D.C. Public Supply Well, Blacks Lane Pumping Station, December 1966.
Appearance	Clear
Nature of Deposit	Nil
Colour	Nil
Odour	Nil
Reaction	Faintly alkaline pH 7.4
<u>Results of Chemical Analysis in Parts per Million</u>	
Ammoniacal nitrogen	0.01
Albuminoid nitrogen	0.01
Nitrate nitrogen	10.0
Nitrite nitrogen	Nil
Chloride as Cl.	54
Fluoride	Nil

### Bacteriological Results

Number of colonies developing per ml. in 48 hours at 37°C - nil  
Presumptive coliform organisms - Probable Number per 100 ml - nil

Opinion : This water is of very good organic quality and its bacteriological condition is excellent. It appears to contain no fluoride at all. In our opinion this water is suitable for drinking and general purposes.

During the year the ban on the use of hoses for watering gardens and washing private cars was continued, and the work has already commenced on the erection of a new storage reservoir with a capacity of 650,000 gallons. It is anticipated that this storage unit will be completed before the peak of the summer season and should facilitate an even pressure supply to the whole of the district.

New Connections to mains during the year	...	...	...	4
Number of domestic premises drawing water from the mains	...	...	...	990
Number of domestic premises not drawing from mains	...	...	...	3
Number of domestic premises drawing from stand taps...	...	...	...	8

### SEWAGE AND SEWAGE SYSTEM

The sewage works is being operated as previously and is subject to surcharging by the sewage collected from the sewage storage tanks at the Beach Undertaking. The Council's Consultants are continuing to investigate the renewal needs for the sewage works.

### Night Soil Collection

During the year one closet conversion was carried out and a grant of £23.18.0d. was paid.



## MILK SUPPLY

### Services Under the Food & Drugs Act, 1955 Milk Supply - Brucella Abortus

The whole of the district is supplied with processed milk and no raw milk is sold within the district. No samples of milk have been taken and no notifications have been received of Brucella Abortus.

### FOOD HYGIENE (GENERAL) REGULATIONS, 1960

Description of Premises	Number of Premises	Premises complying with Regulation 16	Premises to which Reg. 19 applies	Premises complying with Reg. 19
Grocery & Provisions	16	13	16	12
Butchers	4	3	4	4
Fishmongers	4	2	4	4
Bakers	3	3	3	3
Hotels & Cafes	15	8	15	14
Whelkhouses	7	3	7	7

## RODENT CONTROL

Rodent control is carried out by the Sewage Works Attendant, and visits and treatments are summarised in the following table:

1.	a)	Total number of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification.	317
	b)	Number infested by (i) Rats	180
		(ii) Mice	15
2.	a)	Total number of properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification.	61
	b)	Number infested by (i) Rats	20
		(ii) Mice	9

## REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

Refuse collection is carried out and provides a weekly back-door collection using skeps and, while this method is recognised as being untidy and dirty, because the refuse collectors are careful and conscientious, very few complaints are received.

The shuttered body refuse vehicle has a capacity of 5 cu.yards, and during the year a series of loads were weighed and it was found that 13 tons of refuse was collected during a week, and this was contained in 19 loads, which gives an average weight of 12 cwts.3 qrs.per load, and it appears that each cubic yard of refuse weighs under 4 cwts. It is obvious that any vehicle with compression equipment can appreciably reduce the number of journeys between the tip and the town and should effectively produce a reduction in the cost of refuse collection.

Tipping is crude and the face of the tip is often fired. In the same tipping area sewage sludge is discharged and a number of complaints have been received from residents of the Warham Road area. The tipping area is unsatisfactorily fenced, and the tip is subject to totting. From a Public Health point of view the service is unsatisfactory. Unless some major expenditure is made in order that the tipping area may be reasonably maintained, the unsatisfactory condition of the tip must continue, but it will not be possible to maintain the tip in reasonable order so long as it is open to public access and tipping is uncontrolled.

CARAVAN SITE

The Caravan Site was operated as in previous years and the Council now have Consultants working on the possibility of providing mains sewerage for the whole of the Caravan Site, and steps are being taken to provide the electricity supply for pumping sewage directly to the proposed new sewage works.

The water supply to the Beach during the year was adequate. The refuse is collected in the shuttered vehicle referred to on Page 13.

PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY

The following ships entered the port during the year:

Ships from		Arrivals at Wells		Departures Ex. Wells	
		Full	Empty	Full	Empty
Foreign Ports	1964	20	2	14	9
	1965	24	0	3	11
	1966	31	2	24	14
Home Ports	1964	0	9	2	6
	1965	2	5	2	15
	1966	1	26	11	11

The gross tonnage of ships entering the port was 8,354 tons, which was above the 1965 figure of 4,046 tons. On the ships entering the port no serious sanitary defects were noted.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES

The following tables show comparative figures between 1965 and 1966, and one hundred percent meat inspection was carried out of all animals slaughtered in the district. Inspection was generally carried out within the six hours of slaughter, but it is not possible to maintain an inspector on the slaughter premises during the whole period of slaughter, and a great deal of inspection carried out was outside working hours.

Animals Slaughtered

		Bullocks	Calves	Sheep	Pigs	Total
Slaughtered	1965	351	18	306	743	1418
	1966	355	23	208	771	1357
Inspected	1965	351	18	306	743	1418
	1966	355	23	208	771	1357



Unsound Meat Seized or Surrendered  
All diseases except for Tuberculosis

	Bullocks	Calves	Sheep	Pigs
Whole Carcasses Seized	--	--	1	--
Carcasses from which some part was condemned	22	--	2	22
Percentages	6.19	--	0.48 0.96	2.94

Tuberculosis Only

	Bullocks	Calves	Sheep	Pigs
Whole Carcasses condemned	--	--	--	--
Carcasses from which some part was condemned	--	--	--	--
Percentages	--	--	--	--

Cysticercus Bovis

	Bullocks	Calves	Sheep	Pigs
Whole Carcasses condemned	--	--	--	--
Carcasses of which some part was condemned	--	--	--	--
Percentages	--	--	--	--

Unsound Meat

The following were surrendered as unfit for human consumption :

Food	Parts	Weight	Cause of Unfitness
Bovine Liver	20	124 lbs	Abcesses/Hepatitis/Distomatosis
Bovine Lung	2	20 lbs	Pleurisy/Pneumonia/adhesions
Bovine Carcase Meat	1	96 lbs	Bruising
Bovine Heart, Liver & Lung	1	6 lbs	Pneumonia
Bovine Head & Tongue	1	12 lbs	Abcesses
Pig Liver	8	33 lbs	Abcesses/Necrosis/Cirrhosis
Pig Head	2	24 lbs	Abcesses
Pig Lung	9	37 lbs	Congestion/Pneumonia/Pleurisy
Pig Heart	13	18 lbs	Pericarditis/Endocarditis
Pig Carcase Meat	1	12 lbs	Bruising
Pig Pluck	5	44 lbs	Pneumonia/Pleurisy/Hepatitis
Pig Sundry Offal	3	8 lbs	Pleurisy
Sheep Sundry Offal	2	22 lbs	Adhesions/Bruising
Sheep Carcase & Organs	1	38 lbs	Emaciation
<u>Tinned Food</u>			
Jellied Veal		6 lbs	Souring
Corned Beef		12 lbs	Perforation

FACTORIES ACTFactories Acts, 1937 to 1959Annual Report for 1966 under Section 128 (3) of the  
Factories Act, 1937

1. Inspections for the purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by the Public Health Inspector).

Premises	No. on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	19	4	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	-	-	-	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding Out Workers' premises	17	1	-	-

2. Cases in which defects were found :-

NIL



